TO: CCCCO All; Chancellor Eloy Ortiz Oakley; Deputy Chancellor Daisy Gonzales
FROM: Lizette Navarette, Vice Chancellor, College Finance and Facilities Planning
RE: 2020-21 Education Finance Omnibus and Technical Clean-up Bills

On August 31, the California Legislature concluded a complex legislative session against the backdrop of the COVID-19 pandemic. In the final hours of the session, the Legislature also considered technical clean-up and omnibus bills related to the 2020-21 State Budget. Specifically, the Legislature approved amendments to Assembly Bill (AB) 86 and Senate Bill (SB) 820 which made changes to the education portion of the 2020–21 State Budget.

The Legislature approved three relevant provisions related to community colleges:

- SB 820 adds a new section to Government Code Section [GC §] 8880.4.1 to clarify the definition of “instructional materials” as specified in GC § 8880.4(a)(2)(B), which outlines requirement of community colleges to use Proposition 20 Lottery funds on instructional materials. The bill would clarify that instructional materials “include, but are not limited to, laptop computers and devices that provide internet access for use by pupils, students, teachers, and faculty as learning resources,” thus providing more flexibility in the use of these funds. (The Legislature approved a related bill, AB 2884, which would expand the use of restricted Lottery funds on student basic needs.)

- SB 820 would add a 17th voting member, the Lieutenant Governor, to the California Community Colleges Board of Governors (BOG). Currently, the Lieutenant Governor serves as a member of both the University of California Board of Regents and the California State University Board of Trustees.

- As amended, AB 86 authorized $16.6 million in Proposition 51 bond funds as part of an economic stimulus package. The release of additional voter approved Proposition 51 bond funds support the preliminary plans and working drawings phases of eight community college capital outlay projects, as follows: College of Alameda: Aviation Complex Replacement, Saddleback College: Science Math Building Reconstruction, San Francisco City College Cloud Hall: Reconstruction, Sierra College: Science Building Phase 1, Shasta College: Building 200 Modernization, Fullerton College: Music/Drama Complex-Buildings 1100 and 1300 Replacement, and Mt. San Antonio College: Technology and Health Replacement.

Amended budget and omnibus bills will be sent to Governor Gavin Newsom for approval and signature. As budget bills, changes to law go into effect immediately.